

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4225

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

COMUSFORAZ LAJES FLD AZ

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BEL

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 5351

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PO

SUBJ: MADEIRAN INDEPENDENCE

SUMMARY: FLAMA HAS GIVEN GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS OPPOSED TO MADEIRAN INDEPENDENCE UNTIL MIDNIGHT SEPTEMBER 17 TO DEPART MADEIRA OR BE EXPELLED. ULTIMATUM COULD PRESAGE NEW PHASE IN EFFORTS OF MADEIRA AND AZORES TO ACHIEVE INDEPENDENCE. END SUMMARY

1. IN COMMUNIQUE RELEASED SEPT 10 IN FUNCHAL, FLAMA ANNOUNCED DECISION TO PURGE MADEIRA OF ALL THOSE WHO HAVE "BEEN ATTEMPTING TO SLOW THE IRREVERSIBLE PROCESS OF MADEIRAN INDEPENDENCE." LIST OF THOSE TO BE PURGED, INCLUDING CHIEF OF STAFF OF PORTUGUESE MILITARY IN MADEIRA, ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICERS
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SERVING IN ISLANDS, SEVERAL "PROGRESSIVE" CIVIL OFFICIALS, ALL

PCP MEMBERS, AND CERTAIN LABOR LEADERS AND PRIVATE CITIZENS, IS ATTACHED TO COMMUNIQUE. THOSE ON LIST GIVEN UNTIL MIDNIGHT OF SEPT 17 TO DEPART MADEIRA OR BE "SEVERELY AND SIMPLY EXPELLED" BY FLAMA MILITARY ARM, REVOLUTIONARY BRIGADE OF MADEIRAN INDEPENDENCE (BIRGADA REVOLUCIONARIA DA INDEPENDENCIA DA MADEIRA--BRIMA). THEY MAY ESCAPE EXPULSION BY ADHERING TO FLAMA AND DECLARING THEIR SUPPORT FOR MADEIRAN INDEPENDENCE PRIOR TO MIDNIGHT SEPT 15. COMMUNIQUE ALSO CALLS FOR BOYCOTT BY MADEIRANS OF GOODS ORIGINATING IN PORTUGAL.

2. COMMENT: FLAMA HAS PUT ITS CREDIBILITY AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S AUTHORITY IN MADEIRA ON LINE. AS IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ALL, OR EVEN MOST, OF THOSE DESIGNATED FOR EXPULSION BY BRIAM WILL DEPART MADEIRA, AND ASSUMING THAT FLAMA IS PREPARED TO CARRY OUT ITS THREAT, SEPT 18 MAY MARK OPENING OF NEW PHASE IN MADEIRAN EFFORTS TO OBTAIN INDEPENDENCE. FLAMA'S ACTIVITIES, AND GOP'S REACTION TO THEM, ARE CERTAIN TO BE CLOSELY WATCHED BY AZOREANS.
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